A preferred class of compounds of Formula (I) are those wherein Ar represents a substituted or unsubstituted (preferably aromatic), heterocycle group said heterocyclic group containing from 5 to 10 ring atoms, said ring atoms forming one or two rings, wherein the or each ring contains 5 or 6 ring atoms the heteroatoms being selected from N, O, and S , and any substituents on the Ar group being independently selected from the group consisting of:

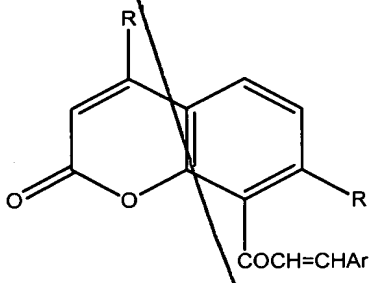
a) Cl, (b) Br, (c) F, (d) OH, (e) NO_2, (f) CF_3, (g) C_{1-4} lower alkyl (in particular CH_3), (h) SCH_3, (i) $NHCOCH_3$, (j) $N(R^6)(R^8)$ wherein R^6 and R^8 are the same or different and each represents H or lower C_{1-4} alkyl (preferably R^6 and R^8 are the same or different and each represent H or lower C_{1-4} alkyl), (k) OR^{10} wherein R^{10} represents a saturated or unsaturated lower C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2, or 3 substituents selected from:

Cl, Br, F, OMe, NO_2 and, CF_3,

and (l) $-OCOR^{11}$ wherein R^{11} represents a saturated or unsaturated lower C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group or a phenyl group.--

IN THE CLAIMS

31. (New) A compound of Formula (I):



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof wherein:

Ar represents: a substituted or unsubstituted, aromatic or non-aromatic, carbocyclic or heterocyclic group having from 5 to 10 ring atoms or two rings with each ring containing 5 or 6 ring atoms, wherein the heterocyclic group comprises a heteroatom selected from N, O and S, and wherein the carbocyclic or heterocyclic group may be unsubstituted or substituted with

one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of: (a) Cl, (b) Br, (c) F, (d) OH, (e) NO_2, (f) CF_3, (g) C_{1-4} alkyl, (h) SCH_3, (i) $NHCOCH_3$, (j) $N(R^6)(R^8)$ wherein R^6 and R^8 are the same or different and each represents H or C_{1-4} alkyl, (k) OR^{10} wherein R^{10} represents a saturated or unsaturated C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents selected from Cl, Br, F, OMe, NO_2 and CF_3, and (l) $-OCOR^{11}$ wherein R^{11} represents a saturated or unsaturated C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group or a phenyl group;

R represents OH, OR^{10} or $OCOR^{11}$ wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined above; and R^1 represents H or a C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents selected from Cl, Br, F, OMe, NO_2 and CF_3.

32. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein Ar represents a substituted or unsubstituted, aromatic or non-aromatic, heterocyclic group having from 5 to 10 ring atoms or two rings with each ring containing 5 or 6 ring atoms, wherein the heterocyclic group comprises a heteroatom selected from N, O and S, and wherein the heterocyclic group can be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of: (a) Cl, (b) Br, (c) F, (d) OH, (e) NO_2, (f) CF_3, (g) C_{1-4} alkyl, (h) SCH_3, (i) $NHCOCH_3$, (j) $N(R^6)(R^8)$ wherein R^6 and R^8 are the same or different and each represents H or C_{1-4} alkyl, (k) OR^{10} wherein R^{10} represents a saturated or unsaturate C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group which may be unsubstituted or substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents selected from: Cl, Br, F, OMe, NO_2 and, and (l) $-OCOR^{11}$ wherein R^{11} represents a saturated or unsaturated C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group or a phenyl group.

33. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein the Ar group is a heterocyclic group, wherein at least one of the ring atoms is a nitrogen atom.

34. (New) The compound of claim 33, wherein Ar represents pyridyl or indolyl.

35. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein Ar represents a substituted or unsubstituted, aromatic or non-aromatic carbocyclic group.

36. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein the substituents on the Ar group are selected from the group consisting of: $NHCOCH_3$, $N(R^8)(R^8)$, OR^{10},and $-OC0R^{11}$.

37. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein Ar is substituted with one or more OR^{10} groups and R^{10} is a saturated or unsaturated C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group.

38. (New) The compound of claim 37, wherein R^{10} is methyl.

39. (New) The compound of claim 37, wherein Ar is a phenyl or a phenyl substituted with from 1 to 3 methoxy groups.

40. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein R is an unsaturated C_{1-6} straight or branched hydrocarbyl group.

41. (New) The compound of claim 40, wherein R is $OCH=C(CH_3)_2$, $OCH_2CMe=CH_2$, $OCH_2CH=CH_2$, or $OCH_2C\equiv CH$.

42. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein Ar is selected from phenyl, trimethoxyphenyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, and 3-indolyl; and R is selected from $OCH=C(CH_3)_2$, $OCH_2CMe=CH_2$, $OCH_2CH=CH_2$ or $OCH_2C\equiv CH$.

43. (New) The compound of claim 35, wherein

Ar is selected from phenyl, which may be unsubstituted or substituted with from 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from Cl, Br, F, OMe, NO_2, CF_3, C_{1-4} alkyl, NMe_2, NEt_2, SCH_3, and $NHCOCH_3$; thienyl; 2-furyl; 3-pyridyl; 4-pyridyl; or indolyl; and

R is selected from OH or OCH_2R^1, wherein R_1 is selected from $-CH=CMe_2$,

-CMe=CH_2, -CH=CH_2 and -C≡CH.

44. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein R^6 and R^8 are the same or different and each is independently H or C_{1-4} alkyl.

45. (New) The compound of claim 31, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently a saturated or unsaturated C_{1-6} straight chain or branched hydrocarbyl group.

46. (New) The compound of claim 45, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are selected from methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, and isopropyl.

47. (New) The compound of claim 31, selected from the group consisting of:

1-[4-methyl-7-(3-methylbut-2-enyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(pyridine-3-yl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(3-methylbut-2-enyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-phenylpropen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(3-methylbut-2-enyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(2-methylallyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(pyridine-3-yl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(2-methylallyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-phenylpropen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(2-methylallyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(2-methylallyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(allyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-phenylpropen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(allyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(allyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(allyloxy)coumarin-3-yl]-3-(3, 4 ,5-trimethoxyphenyl)propen-1-one;

1-[4-methyl-7-(prop-2-ynyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3, 4, 5-trimethoxyphenyl)propen-1-one;

1 -[4-methyl-7-(prop-2-ynyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-phenylpropen-1-one;

1 -[4-methyl-7-(prop-2-ynyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(pyridin-3-yl)propen-1-one; and

1 -[4-methyl-7-(prop-2-ynyloxy)coumarin-8-yl]-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propen-1-one.

48. (New) A method of treating cancer in a patient comprising administering to the patient a compound of claim 31.

49. (New) A method of treating or preventing neoplasms in a patient comprising administering to the patient a compound of claim 31.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the neoplasms are located in the uterus, ovary, or breast.

51. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the cancer is a paclitaxel or docetaxel resistant cancer.

52. (New) The method of claim 48, further comprising administering one or more antineoplastic agents.

53. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein antineoplastic agent comprises paclitaxel or docetaxel.

54. (New) A method of treating or preventing menopausal disorders and osteoporosis in a patient comprising administering to the patient a compound of claim 31.

55. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 31 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 55 further comprising one or more antineoplastic agents.

57. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 56, wherein the antineoplastic agent is selected from paclitaxel or docetaxel.

A complete listing of the currently pending claims is provided in Appendix C for the Examiners convenience.